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- 23. (New) A method for use in connection with a game ticket having machine readable game play information and a number of directly identifiable result codes formed thereon, each result code being representative of a respective game play outcome, the method including:
 - (a) receiving the game ticket in a game ticket reader of a player station;
 - (b) reading the machine readable game play information with the game ticket reader, the machine readable game play information specifying the game play outcomes represented by the result codes formed on the game ticket;
 - (c) detecting whether the game ticket received in the game ticket reader includes a cover over an area of the game ticket on which the result codes are formed;
 - in the event that the detecting step indicates that the cover is present on the game ticket, disabling the player station from displaying the game play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read with the game ticket reader, and
 - (e) in the event that the detecting step indicates that the cover is absent from the game ticket, enabling the player station to display the game play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read with the game ticket reader.

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(New) The method of Claim 23 wherein the step of detecting whether the game ticket 24. includes the cover includes producing a cover sensor output at a cover sensor. 25. (New) The method of Claim 24 wherein the cover sensor is an optical sensor. (New) The method of Claim 24 wherein the cover sensor is a magnetic sensor. 27. (New) The method of Claim 23 wherein the step of detecting whether the game ticket includes the cover includes the step of attempting to detect a feature located on the cover. .10 11 (New) The method of Claim 23 wherein the step of detecting whether the game ticket 12 includes the cover includes the step of attempting to detect a feature located on a substrate 13 of the game ticket. 14 .16 (New) An apparatus including: 17 a player station for displaying game play outcomes associated with a game ticket, 18 the game ticket including machine readable game play information and a number 19 of directly identifiable result codes formed thereon, each result code being representative of a respective game play outcome; 21 a game ticket reader for receiving the game ticket and also for reading the (b) machine readable game play information, the machine readable game play BEST AVAILABLE COPY Page 3 of 16

PAGE 7/20 * RCVD AT 3/14/2006 5:23:01 PM (Eastern Standard Time) * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/7 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:512327266

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information specifying the game play outcomes represented by the result codes formed on the game ticket; a cover sensor associated with the game ticket reader, the cover sensor producing a cover sensor output with the cover sensor output indicating whether the game 5 ticket received in the game ticket reader includes a cover over an area of the game ticket on which the result codes are formed; and a processor coupled to the cover sensor and the game ticket reader, the processor for (i) disabling the player station from displaying game play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read with the game 10 ticket reader when the cover sensor output indicates that the cover is present on 11 the game ticket and also for (ii) enabling the player station to display the game 12 play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has 13 been read with the game ticket reader when the cover sensor output indicates that 14 the cover is absent from the game ticket. 15 16 (New) The apparatus of Claim 29 wherein the cover sensor is an optical sensor. 17 18 (New) The apparatus of Claim 29 wherein the cover sensor is a magnetic sensor. 19 20 (New) The apparatus of Claim 29 wherein the cover sensor is operable for detecting a 21 feature located on the cover.

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- 1 33. (New) The apparatus of Claim 29 wherein the cover sensor is operable for detecting a feature located on a substrate of the game ticket.
 - 34. (New) A program product executable for use in connection with a game ticket having machine readable game play information and a number of directly identifiable result codes formed thereon, each result code being representative of a respective game play outcome, the program product being stored on a computer readable medium and including:
 - (a) cover sensor reading code executable for reading a cover sensor output from a cover sensor associated with a game ticket reader on a player station, the cover sensor output indicating whether the game ticket includes a cover over an area of the game ticket on which the result codes are formed; and
 - player station control code executable for (i) reading the machine readable game play information from the game ticket with the game ticket reader, the machine readable game play information specifying the game play outcomes represented by the result codes formed on the game ticket, for (ii) disabling the player station from displaying the game play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read by the game ticket reader when the cover sensor output indicates that the cover is present on the game ticket, and also for (iii) enabling the player station to display the game play outcomes specified by the machine readable game play information that has been read by the game ticket

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- reader when the cover sensor output indicates that the cover is absent from the game ticket.
- 4 35. (New) The program product of Claim 34 wherein the cover sensor output comprises a signal residing at either a first signal level or a second signal level.

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